City of Norman 201 West Gray Norman, Oklahoma 73069

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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## NORMAN CITIZENS CORPS TO HOLD COMMUNITY TRAINING

The City of Norman Office of Emergency Management through the Norman Citizens CORPS will conduct free training for Citizens of Norman, Oklahoma. The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community.

The CERT course is taught in the community by a trained team of first responders who have completed a CERT Train-the-Trainer course conducted by their state training office for emergency management, or FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI), located in Emmitsburg, Maryland. CERT training includes disaster preparedness, disaster fire suppression, basic disaster medical operations, and light search and rescue operations. Completing the course allows citizens to take new skills to their neighborhoods and increase their ability to be "Ready" during a disaster. This course also qualifies citizens interested in volunteering for emergency operations to apply for the Norman Emergency Response Volunteer program.

The CERT training will be held at the Moore Norman Technical Center on October 30-31, 2009, November 6-7, 2009 and November 20-21, 2009. For further information or to register for the program please contact David Grizzle at 405-292-9780 or by email at <a href="mailto:david.grizzle@normanok.gov">david.grizzle@normanok.gov</a>.